limitations to minimise the flaring of natural gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) During the Seventh Plan period, the estimated expenditure so far by the petroleum sector comes to about 97 per cent of the planned outlay. From the present estimates it appears that by and large the target of crude oil production will be fulfilled. Flaring of gas, as percentage of production, has in fact come down from over 40 per cent at the start of the Seventh Plan to about 30 per cent, at present.

(d) During 1987-88, the percentage of natural gas flared out of the total production was about 30 per cent.

(e) Action taken by Government to improve the performance of the petroleum sector includes, among others, the following:—

(i) To draw plans for more intensive and extensive exploratory effort.

(ii) To absorb and apply appropriate technology, both in exploration and in production, for obtaining better results.

(iii) Putting the discoveries on production in the shortest possible time.

(iv) To improve and augment the infrastructure for transportation of crude oil and gas.

(v) A more effective reservoir management for arresting any decline in the matured fields.

(vi) Quick liquidation of the sickness of the wells.

(vii) Augmentation of refining capacity in step with the growing demand for petroleum products.

(viii) Improving the yield pattern at the refineries so as to maximise the yield of valuable distillate products.

(ix) Reducing the fuel and less consumption at the refineries.

(x) Augmentation of tankage and infrastructural facilities for product distribution to meet the growing demand.

Steps initiated to minimise the flaring of natural gas are:

(i) additional commitments to take care of any possible failure by the regular consumers to take the gas,

(ii) supply of the gas on a fall-back basis at 15 per cent discount, and

(iii) arrangement for installation of additional compression facilities to increase the quantity of gas for useful consumption.

पी०टी०ए० और डी०एम०टी० की कीमतें

2893. **श्री राम जेठमलानी** : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही मे पीटीए और डीएमटी की कीमतों में वृद्धि की घोषणा की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस मूल्य वृद्धि के परिणामस्वरूप पालिएस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर तथा यार्न उद्योग पर आर्थिक भार और बढ़ गया है;

(ग) क्या इस उद्योग को उक्त आर्थिक भार से बचाने के लिए इसे कच्चे माल का आयात करने की सुविधाएं प्रदान करने और इस उद्योग को कुछ छूट देने के लिए तत्काल कोई व्यवस्था की जा रही है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध मे ब्योरा क्या है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री जे० वेंगलराव): (क) से (घ) डीएमटी और पीटीए विनिर्माताओं ने अगस्त, 1988 से फरवरी, 1989 के बीच अपने बिक्री मूल्यों में काफी वृद्धि कर दी। जिसके परिणामस्वरूप पालिएस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर, पालिएस्टर फिलामेंट यार्न आदि की उत्पादन लागत में वृद्धि हुई।

दिनांक 1 मार्च, 1989 से पैराजाइलीन पर आयात शुल्क में कमी की गई है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप डीएमटी और पीटीए विनिर्माताओं ने कुल मिला कर अपने बिक्री मूल्यों में तदनुरूपी कमी कर दी है।

इस समय डीएमटी की मामूली सी कमी है जिसकी पूर्ति आयात द्वारा की जाती है।

Post Offices in Orissa and West Bengal

2894. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices, Sub-post Offices and head Post Offices functioning at present in Orissa and West Bengal;

(b) the number of new Post Offices, sub-post offices and head Post Offices proposed to be opened during the next three years in these States; and

(c) whether Government have received any request from these States for opening new post offices; if so, what are the details thereof and the steps so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The information is as follows:

	HO	SO	EDSO	EDBO	Total
West Bengal	44	1611	343	6210	8208
Orissa	35	1122	196	6180	7543

(HO : Head Post Office,
SO : Sub-Post Office
EDBO : Extra-Departmental Branch Post Office,
EDSO : Extra-Departmental Sub Post Office)

(b) Information in respect of 1988-89 is as follows:

	DSOs	EDBOs
West Bengal	4	128
Orissa	2	173

The programme for 1989-90 has not been finalised. Insofar as head post offiecs are concerned, this category does not come under the Five Year Plan. Proposals based on prescribed standards are considered as and when received.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.